In the Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ assembly as described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8 wherein said biasing member is a spring member.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ assembly as described in claim 4 wherein said spring member is a coil spring member.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ assembly as described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8 further comprising at least one heater member positioned on said housing member.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (New) A shut-off valve assembly for a plastic injection molding system, said assembly comprising:

a housing member having an internal cavity, an orifice at a first end of said cavity, and an opening at the second end of said cavity;

a piston member slidingly positioned in said cavity, said piston member having an internal passageway therein for at least part of its length for passage of plastic material, said passageway having a first opening in the direction of said orifice at the first end of the cavity and at least one second opening distal to said orifice;

said piston member having a head member at one end positioned adjacent said second end of said cavity;

a plate member attached to said housing member and having an opening positioned for passage of plastic material into said opening in the second end of said cavity; and

a biasing member positioned in said cavity and biasing said piston member in a direction toward said second end of said cavity;

wherein said piston member has a first position biased by said biasing member with said head member in contact with said plate member for preventing passage of plastic material through said opening in said plate member, and a second position forced away from said plate member by pressure of the injected plastic material to allow passage of plastic material through said opening in said plate member.

9. (New) The assembly as set forth in claim 8 further comprising a flange member on said piston member, said flange member contacting said biasing member.

10. (New) An integrated mechanical shutoff valve system for use in plastic injection molding, said system comprising:

a mold member having at least a first mold cavity therein;

a shutoff valve assembly comprising:

a housing member having an internal cavity, an orifice at a first end of said cavity, and an opening at the second end of said cavity;

a piston member slidingly positioned in said cavity, said piston member having an internal passageway therein for at least part of its length for passage of plastic material, said passageway having a first opening in the direction of said orifice at the first end of the cavity and at least one second opening distal to said orifice;

said piston member having a head member at one end positioned adjacent said second end of said cavity;

a plate member attached to said housing member and having an opening positioned for passage of plastic material into said opening in the second end of said cavity; and

a biasing member positioned in said cavity and biasing said piston member in a direction toward said second end of said cavity;

wherein said piston member has a first position biased by said biasing member with said head member in contact with said plate member for preventing passage of

plastic material through said opening in said plate member, and a second position forced away from said plate member by pressure of the injected plastic material to allow passage of plastic material through said opening in said plate member;

said orifice at said first end of said cavity allowing passage of plastic material into said mold cavity.

11. (New) The system as set forth in claim 10 wherein the assembly as described in wherein said biasing member is a spring member.

12. (New) The system as set forth in claim 11 wherein said spring member is a coil spring member.

13. (New) The system as set forth in claim 10 further comprising at least one heater member positioned on said housing member.

14. (New) The system as set forth in claim 10 further comprising a flange member on said piston member, said flange member contacting said biasing member.

15. (New) The system as set forth in claim 8 wherein said head member has a first surface for mating with said opening in said plate member and preventing passage of plastic material through said opening.

16. (New) The system as set forth in claim 10 wherein said head member has a first surface for mating with said opening in said plate member and preventing passage of plastic material through said opening.